turns for provision of telephone connections;

(b) if so, what is the procedure followed at present by the MTNL to inform the wait-listed applicants for new telephone connections when their turn matures and their deposits are adjusted against installation charges/rental etc.; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to streamline the procedure in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) While no Demand Notes are issued to the applicants on maturity of their turn for provision of new telephone connections in Delhi, the applicants are intimated through letters about the release of their telephone connections. The deposit alongwith the interest thereon is adjusted in the first telephone bill after the telephone is installed.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply above.

दूरसंचार तंत्र का विकेन्द्रीकरण

3366. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:**
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा:

क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 5 अक्तूबर, 1991 के "हिन्दू" में "टेलीकॉम नेटवर्क टू बी डीसेन्ट्रलाइज्ड" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने दूरसंचार सेवाओं का विकेन्द्रीकरण करने का निर्णय लिया है और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है तथा इस प्रस्ताव को कब तक लागू किए जाने की संभावना है?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी. वी. रंगैया नायडू): (क) जी हां।

(ख) दूरसंचार विभाग के लिए अत्यंत उपयुक्त ढांचे की सिफारिश करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा गठित की गई उच्च स्तरीय समिति (आन्ध्रे समिति) की सिफारिशें अभी भी सरकार के विचाराधीन है और अभी तक कोई अन्तिम निर्णय नहीं लिया जा सका है।

Opening of New Branch Post Offices in Orissa

3367. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of new Branch Post Offices opened in Orissa, district-wise, during the year 1990-91;

(b) what is the total number of applicants who are yet to get telephone connections in that State, district-wise; and

(c) the target fixed for providing the telephone connections to the applicants registered under OYT and NON-OYT category?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The information is furnished in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The number of applicants for telephone connections district-wise as on 30-11-91 is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) It is psoposed to provide about 9500 telephone connections in Orissa during 1991-92.

All present applicants registered under OYT are likely to be provided telephone connections during 1991-92. It is expected that the present waiting list will be cleared in the early part of the 8th Plan.